

Call to Order

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:11 p.m. in Conference Room C at Troy City Hall.

Roll Call

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| Present: | Tom Kaszubski | Jeff Hyun |
| | Padma Kuppa | Charles Yuan |
| | Oniell Shah | Anju Brodbine |
| | Flora Tan | Amin Hashmi |
| | Cindy Stewart, City Liaison | Kara Huang, Student Rep |
| Absent: | Hailu Robele, Katie Beyer | |

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from March 2, 2004 - Motion by Shah, second by Kuppa. Approved unanimously.

Minutes from March 16, 2004 special meeting - Motion by Tan, second by Shah. Approved unanimously.

New Business/Special Guests:

Ann Comiskey, Executive Director & Barb Ford, Membership Chair, Troy Community Coalition for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse

Would like to invite EIA members to join the Coalition. Mission to provide a lifestyle free from alcohol and drugs. One in four kids live with some form of addiction according to NACO (National Association for Children of Alcoholics). Top 3 substances for addiction: Alcohol, Tobacco, and Marijuana. Coalition has 11 sectors they try and recruit members from: health, youth serving, parents, youth, faith community, schools, etc.

Faith Community Prayer Breakfast shows their support in how important the faith community is with prevention. Coalition tries to reach out to community and ethnic cultures to assist with prevention and keep a healthy community. Programs include 4 year olds, 4th Grade: "Choose Wisely," Incredible Kids program, Turn Around Achievement program, Teens Taking Action, Youth Dialogue Day, Smoking cessation programs. They need volunteers for all programs. Coalition has literature, drug test kits, and support for parents and community. Community based organization believes it is better to build a child than change an adult.

Meet the 1st Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the Fire Police Training Center, 4850 John R. Invite all to come and participate. EIA suggested seminars for parents, educational forums. Drug use is down 11% across the country. Most effective way of prevention = parent involvement. Troy kids have triple threat: boredom, stress, and money.

Old Business:

A. Cultural Displays Recommendation

Architectural drawing submitted. Wall would have 79 granite blocks representing countries in world, about 3000 brick pavers (to be sold at \$75, family name only on pavers). Planter box and obelisk 10-12 feet high with seven spaces representing continents. Gas flame lit year round. Bricks to pay for entire project as well as seeking sponsor for the gas flame cost.

Local artist said she'd do an artist's rendering and member's wife will do the model. Theme is "Our strength is our unity."

Email religious institution info to Padma to put together statistical portion. EIA to brainstorm points for presentation. May 4 invite Parks & Rec/CCPTF members to our meeting. Presentation at June 7th Council Meeting.

B. Sights & Sounds of the Middle East

Spoke with Mayada and everything is set. They are preparing an entranceway for the room. Entertainment, kids workshop, cooking demo, inventions, art, Arabic name writing and more.

C. Troy Daze EthniCity: on hold

D. Fundraiser Event: EIA Craft Fair – Sights & Sounds of the World – tentative date October 10, 2004. Anju and Oniell will meet again with members from Bharatiya Temple re: rent and food. Cindy check with Lori Bluhm re: waiver of liability, they want to host ethnic craft fair at Temple. Padma will check Athens High re: Oct. 9 or 10.

E. Resource List on hold until summer

F. Diversity Week:

School letters to PTO presidents. Already sent to schools, businesses and churches. Athens High School changed their Ethnic Fair event to be during Diversity Week.

G. Law Brochure – on hold

Kara got Troy High Spanish teacher to translate the brochure

Member Comment: Charles will be gone from April 25 – May 15.

Motion by Yuan, second by Hashmi to adjourn - Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm

Tom Kaszubski, EIA Board Chairman

Cindy Stewart, Recording Secretary